

GENERAL ORDERS

AND DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS MEMORANDA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS

VOL 96-5

TOPEKA, KANSAS

PLEASE READ AT POST MEETING

NOVEMBER 2016

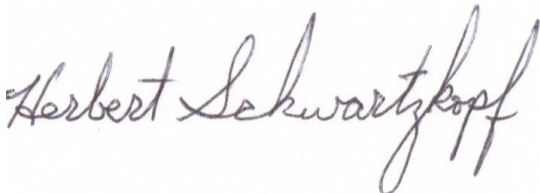
1. Notice is hereby given that the Annual VFW Mid-Winter Department of Kansas, Council of Administration Meeting will be held in Junction City, Kansas on January 13-15, 2017.
2. Posts and Auxiliaries distributing poppies are requested to make settlement with Department Headquarters within ten (10) days after date of distribution.
3. Posts are reminded that November 11th is Veteran's Day and appropriate ceremonies in honor of all veterans shall be held by all VFW Posts and each Post shall proudly display the Flag of the United States.
4. **UNAUTHORIZED CARDS.** Attention is called to the fact that VFW National By-Laws provide only one type of membership, that is active membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. There are no provisions in the National By-Laws or are there any authority or justification for issuance of Club Membership Cards, Courtesy Membership Cards or other special types of cards. Any Posts issuing such unauthorized cards, or conducting club operations open to the general public, endangers its standing with the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit organization. Officers signing outlaw cards admitting non-members to VFW premises are subject to disciplinary action. National and Department officers cannot defend practices that conflict with VFW By-Laws and Procedure.
5. **POST INCORPORATION.** All VFW Posts should take the necessary steps to incorporate under the laws of the state in which the Post is located. Incorporation of the VFW Posts exercises good business sense. Incorporation removes the Post Officers and individual members from liability for debts or damages which may result from Post activities. It limits recovery to the total assets of the incorporation, rather than the assets of individual officers and members. Posts should contact Department Headquarters to obtain proper forms for incorporating or go online to www.kssos.org
6. Officers on all levels should have current copies of National By-Laws, and VFW Ritual. Copies of National By-Laws and VFW Ritual may be purchased through the VFW Emblem & Supply Department, National Headquarters. www.vfwstore.org
7. The attention of Department, District and Post Commanders is directed to Sections 102 & 103 of the Manual of Procedure which prescribes the manner in which applications for membership will be handled. Applications for membership of new, reinstating or transfer members must be voted on by the members present at a regular Post meeting. No Post, District, Department or National Officer, or any other member, has authority to reject the application of a person that is eligible for membership.
8. Attention is directed to the importance of constant inspection. District Commanders will exert every effort to have each unit in their District inspected at least once annually. Post Commanders will insist on quarterly audits of records and books by Post Trustees, subject to penalties outlined in Section 213 of the National Congressional Charter and By-Laws.

9. All Commanders are reminded that Section 709, Manual of Procedure, Control of the Units, requires any activity, unit or club sponsored, conducted or operated by a Post, District or Department be at all times under the direct control of the Post, District or Department as appropriate. All Commanders should ensure that all of the provisions of Section 709 are enforced.

10. Posts are reminded to fly the Flag on the following days:

November 8 - Election Day
November 11 - Veteran's Day

By Order of
Gerald D. Marvin, Commander
State of Kansas, VFW

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Herbert Schwartzkopf". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

ATTEST: Herbert Schwartzkopf, Adj.-Qm.
Department of Kansas, VFW